U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Migratory Bird Management, Landbird Section

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number: 15.655

Notice of Funding Opportunity # F14AS00212

Notice of Funding Availability and Application Instructions

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Region 7 intends to award a single source financial assistance agreement as authorized by 505 DM 2.14 (B) to Alaska Pacific University. This notice is not a request for proposals and the Government does not intend to accept proposals. Award will be made 15 days after this notice.

This financial assistance opportunity is being issued under the Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit (CESU) Network: (http://www.cesu.psu.edu/materials/partners.htm). The CESU network provides research, technical assistance, and education to federal land management, environmental, and research agencies and their partners. The partners serve the biological, physical, social, cultural, and engineering disciplines needed to address natural and cultural resource management issues at multiple scales and in an ecosystem context.

I. Description of Funding Opportunity

The North and West Alaska Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit (CESU) is a collaborative effort between universities, institutions, and federal agencies designed to facilitate research. Both USFWS and Alaska Pacific University (APU) are partners in the CESU. A principal goal of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (hereinafter call USFWS), Alaska Migratory Bird Conservation Strategy (2005–2015) is to "coordinate with, and provide technical assistance to, other Service programs and public and private partners concerning habitat requirements for migratory birds, and effective protection, restoration and management practices for such habitats." APU staff and students possess specialized skills in monitoring avian migration as well as an intimate familiarity with avian migrations across the Gulf of Alaska. This is of interest to USFWS due to (1) the high use of this over-ocean migration route by a myriad of species of migrating birds, many of which are of conservation concern, and (2) the potential vulnerability of these birds to forecasted increases in the intensity and frequency of autumn storms in the future in the North Pacific. Staff and students of APU are working with USFWS to research avian migration across the Gulf of Alaska from Middleton Island since 2010. APU is therefore uniquely qualified to continue this field effort and to analyze these data to help USFWS understand how contemporary and future weather patterns will influence the timing and magnitude of over-ocean migration across the Gulf of Alaska. Funding is being made available through USFWS for a 3-year research study to be conducted under the CESU Agreement #701817K403. This funding opportunity is made under the authority of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918 16 U.S.C. 709a; Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act 16 U.S.C 2901–2911.

II. Award Information

This funding opportunity will result in an award of \$37,000 for the period July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2017. Additional money of the equivalent amount may be added in 2015 and 50% of this amount in 2016. The funding will be provided as a cooperative agreement.

The USFWS is required to be substantially involved in the project(s) under this funding opportunity for the successful completion of the activities to be funded. In particular, the Service will be responsible for the following:

- Review of study plan by Service staff to ensure the study meets Service expectation of study objectives, methods, and execution.
- Assist APU in field logistics and collection of field data.
- Review drafts of final report.
- Review the resulting manuscripts, potentially serving as co-authors.

III. <u>Basic Eligibility Requirements</u>

Eligible Applicants:

This is restricted to the Single Source Award placed against APU CESU # #701817K403.

Federal law mandates that all entities applying for Federal financial assistance must have a valid Dun & Bradstreet Data Universal Number System (DUNS) number and have a current registration in the System for Award Management (SAM). See Title 2 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Part 25 (2 CFR 25) for more information. Exemptions: The SAM registration requirement does not apply to individuals submitting an application on their own behalf and not on behalf of a company or other for-profit entity, state, local or Tribal government, academia or other type of organization.

A. DUNS Registration

Request a DUNS number online at http://fedgov.dnb.com/webform. U.S.-based entities may also request a DUNS number by telephone by calling the Dun & Bradstreet Government Customer Response Center, Monday – Friday, 7 AM to 8 PM CST at the following numbers:

U.S. and U.S Virgin Islands: 1-866-705-5711

Alaska and Puerto Rico: 1-800-234-3867 (Select Option 2, then Option 1)

For Hearing Impaired Customers Only call: 1-877-807-1679 (TTY Line)

Once assigned a DUNS number, entities are responsible for maintaining up-to-date information with Dun & Bradstreet.

B. Entity Registration in SAM

Register in SAM online at http://www.sam.gov/. Once registered in SAM, entities must renew and revalidate their SAM registration at least every 12 months from the date previously registered. Entities are strongly urged to revalidate their registration as often as needed to ensure that their information is up to date and in synch with changes that may have been made to DUNS and IRS information. Foreign entities who wish to be paid directly to a United States bank account must enter and maintain valid and current banking information in SAM.

C. Excluded Entities

Applicant entities identified in the SAM.gov Exclusions database as ineligible, prohibited/restricted or excluded from receiving Federal contracts, certain subcontracts, and certain Federal assistance and benefits will not be considered for Federal funding, as applicable to the funding being requested under this Federal program.

D. Cost Sharing or Matching:

Cost-sharing is encouraged, but not required.

IV. Application Requirements

To be considered for funding under this funding opportunity, an application must contain:

A. Application for Federal Assistance form

A completed, signed and dated Application for Federal Assistance form. All applicants are required to submit the Standard Form SF-424, available at http://apply07.grants.gov/apply/FormLinks?family=15.

Do not include other Federal sources of funding, requested or approved, in the total entered in the "Federal" funding box on the Application for Federal Assistance form. Enter only the amount being requested under this program in the "Federal" funding box. Include any other Federal sources of funding in the total funding entered in the "Other" box.

B. Project Summary

The objectives of this project, Weather controls on the over-ocean migration of birds across the Gulf of Alaska, are to determine (1) the timing, magnitude, and species composition of autumn avian migration across this region; (2) how autumn weather governs bird migrations across this region; and (3) how future increases in storm intensity and frequency might influence avian migrations across the region. For objectives 1 and 2, APU will model 2010–2014 avian abundance data relative to local and synoptic weather patterns. Several sources of bird data will be analyzed: avian surveys and mist-net captures from Middleton Island, Alaska, and imagery of migrating birds across the Gulf of Alaska collected from a weather radar station on Middleton Island. Additional avian surveys and mist-netting will be conducted as part of this study in 2014 on Middleton Island. Weather information will include data collected from instrumented stations throughout the Gulf of Alaska, as well as summaries of synoptic weather patterns taken from the above mentioned weather radar station. Results of this field work and analyses will be made available through periodic reports and publications.

C. Project Narrative

1. Statement of Need:

A majority of annual avian mortality occurs during migration but we know little about avian migration in Alaska and how it is governed by weather. The latter may be of particular concern for ocean-crossing migrants because the intensity and frequency of autumn storms in the North Pacific are forecasted to increase in the future. In this study, APU staff and students will examine the autumn migration of birds across the Gulf of Alaska. This study aims to (1) identify the species and the magnitude of their migrations across this poorly studied migration route, (2) determine how storm patterns govern trans-Gulf of Alaska migrations of songbirds and other bird taxa, and (3) evaluate how future changes in storm intensity and frequency might influence avian migrations in the region. This project uses a combination of mist netting, ground surveys, and radar imagery to evaluate avian migration from autumn 2010–2014 across the Gulf of Alaska. Much of this data has been collected (2010–2013), but an additional year for field study is needed for autumn 2014.

2. Project Goals and Objectives:

The USFWS and APU have conducted fall bird surveys and mist-netting on Middleton Island, Alaska since 2010. APU will continue this work in 2014 and then analyze the 2010–2014 data to understand how autumn weather patterns govern the over-ocean migration of a variety of bird species across the Gulf of Alaska. This understanding will then be used to evaluate how future increases in the intensity and frequency of storms may influence bird populations relying on this migration corridor.

3. Project Activities, Methods and Timetable:

See section IV B, above for methods. Timetable is as follows:

Dates (2014–2016)	Activity	
July-October 2014	Bird surveys and mist-netting on Middleton Island, Alaska	
November 2014–May 2015	Enter data, analyze data, and complete progress report	
September 2015–May 2016	Complete data analysis and final report	
June–December 2016	Complete thesis and publications	

4. Stakeholder Coordination/Involvement:

Results of the proposed research will be used by USFWS to determine (1) important areas during migration for bird species of concern, and (2) how current and future weather patterns influences the timing and magnitude of over-ocean avian migration across the region.

5. Project Monitoring and Evaluation:

Annual progress reports will be delivered to the USFWS project coordinator and reviewed annually by a team of technical experts. The evaluation will consider the ability of APU to complete the research as planned, and the cost and effectiveness at meeting the stated objectives. The evaluation will help identify potential shortcomings, make recommendations for study improvement, and help determine whether additional years of studies are justified.

6. Description of Entities Undertaking the Project:

The project will be designed, and all elements coordinated and carried out, by Alaska Pacific University. The principal investigator is:

Dr. Roman Dial Professor of Biology and Mathematics Alaska Pacific University 4101 University Drive Anchorage, AK 99508 roman@apu.edu (907) 227-5125

7. Sustainability:

The proposed project will run for 2.5 years and will be evaluated by technical experts. Beyond the 2.5-year horizon of the initial project, the USFWS has no obligation to support the survey.

- **8.** Literature Cited: Not Applicable.
- 9. Map of Project Area: Not Applicable.

D. Budget Form

Complete the **Budget Information for Non-Construction Programs** (**SF 424A**) or **Budget Information for Construction Programs** (**SF 424C**) **form**. Use the SF 424A if your project does not include construction and the SF 424C if the project includes construction or land acquisition. The budget forms are available online at http://apply07.grants.gov/apply/FormLinks?family=15. When developing your budget, keep in mind that financial assistance awards and subawards are subject to the cost principles in the following Federal regulations, as applicable to the recipient organization type:

- 2 CFR Part 220, Cost Principles for Educational Institutions
- 2 CFR Part 225, Cost Principles for States and Local Governments
- 2 CFR Part 230, Cost Principles for Non-Profit Organizations
- 45 CFR Part 74, Appendix E, Principles for Determining Costs Applicable to Research and Development Under Grants and Contracts with Hospitals
- 48 CFR 1, Subpart 31.2, Contracts with Commercial Organizations

Links to the full text of these Federal cost principles are available on the Internet at http://www.fws.gov/grants/.

Multiple Federal Funding Sources:

If the project budget includes multiple Federal funding sources, you must show the funds being requested from this Federal program *separately* from any other requested/secured Federal sources of funding on the budget form. For example, enter the funds being requested from this Federal program in the first row of the Budget Summary section of the form and then enter funding related to other Federal programs in the subsequent row(s). Be sure to enter each Federal program's CFDA number in the corresponding fields on the form. The CFDA number for this Federal program appears on the first page of this funding opportunity.

E. Budget Justification

In a separate narrative titled "**Budget Justification**", explain and justify all requested budget items/costs. Detail how the SF 424 Budget Object Class Category totals were determined and demonstrate a clear connection between costs and the proposed project activities. For personnel salary costs, include the base-line salary figures and the estimates of time (as percentages) to be directly charged to the project. Describe any item that under the applicable Federal Cost Principles requires the Service's approval and estimate its cost.

Required Indirect Cost Statement: All applicants except individuals applying for funds separate from a business or non-profit organization he/she may operate <u>must</u> include in the budget justification narrative one of the following statements and attach to their application all required documentation as detailed in the following table:

Cin	rcumstance:	Statement to include in budget narrative:	Other document(s) to attach:
•	No indirect cost rate Charges all costs directly	Indirect Cost Statement: Our organization does not have an indirect cost rate and will charge all costs directly.	None.
•	Is not an individual Has an indirect cost rate Has an approved Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (NICRA) with their Federal cognizant agency covering part/all of the proposed project period	Indirect Cost Statement: We have an approved NICRA covering part/all of the proposed project period. A copy of that NICRA is attached.	Copy of approved NICRA.
•	Is not an individual Has an indirect cost rate Has established a NICRA in the past, but do not have an approved rate covering part/all of the proposed project period May or may not have recently submitted a new NICRA proposal to cognizant agency. If not, will do so within the required timeframe, in the event an award is made	 Indirect Cost Statement: Our indirect cost rate is [insert a description of the rate]. We have established a NICRA in the past but it expired. [Insert one of the following statements: "We submitted a new NICRA proposal to our cognizant agency on [insert date]." OR "In the event an award is made we will submit a NICRA proposal to our cognizant agency immediately and no later than 90 calendar days after the award is made". We understand that: Although the Service may approve a budget that includes an estimate of indirect costs based on our stated rate, that approval will be contingent on our establishing a NICRA. Recipients without a NICRA are prohibited 	Copy of most recently expired NICRA and, when applicable, a copy of any NICRA proposal submitted to the cognizant agency that is currently pending approval.

	from charging indirect costs to a Federal	
	 award. Failure to establish a NICRA during the award period will make all costs otherwise allocable as indirect costs under the award unallowable. 	
	 We will not be authorized to transfer any unallowable indirect costs to the amount budgeted for direct costs or to satisfy cost- sharing or matching requirements without the prior written approval of the Service. 	
	We may not shift unallowable indirect costs to another Federal award unless specifically authorized by legislation.	
<u> </u>	Indirect Cost Statement: Our indirect cost rate	None at the time of
Has never established a	is [insert a description of the rate]. We have never established a NICRA. In the event an award is made we will submit a NICRA proposal to our cognizant agency immediately	application. In the event an award is made, recipient must submit a
Will submit a NICRA proposal to cognizant	and no later than 90 calendar days after the award is made. We understand that:	copy of their approved NICRA before charging indirect costs to the
agency within the required timeframe, in the event an award is made	 Although the Service may approve a budget that includes an estimate of indirect costs based on our stated rate, that approval will be contingent on our establishing a NICRA. 	award.
	 Recipients without a NICRA are prohibited from charging indirect costs to a Federal award. 	
	 Failure to establish a NICRA during the award period will make all costs otherwise allocable as indirect costs under the award unallowable. 	
	 We will not be authorized to transfer any unallowable indirect costs to the amount budgeted for direct costs or to satisfy cost- sharing or matching requirements without the prior written approval of the Service. 	
	We may not shift unallowable indirect costs to another Federal award unless specifically authorized by legislation.	
local or Federally- recognized Indian tribal	Indirect Cost Statement: We have never established a NICRA in the past and will not be able to meet the requirement to submit a NICRA proposal to our cognizant agency within 90	None.
NICRA in the past	calendar days after award, in the event an award is made. In the event an award is made we	
Cannot charge all costs	request as a condition of award to charge a flat indirect cost rate of 10% of modified total direct costs (MTDC). We understand this rate will	
	apply for the life of the award, including any	
_	future extensions for time, and that the rate	
1 1	cannot be changed even if we do establish a NICRA at any point during the award period.	
	We understand that MTDC is defined as all	
award is made	salaries and wages, applicable fringe benefits,	
	materials and supplies, services, travel, and	

subawards and subcontracts up to the <u>first</u>	
\$25,000 of each subaward or subcontract	
(regardless of the period of performance of the	
subawards and subcontracts under the award).	
We understand that MTDC excludes equipment,	
capital expenditures, charges for patient care,	
rental costs, tuition remission, scholarships and	
fellowships,participant support costs and the	
portion of each subaward and subcontract in	
excess of \$25,000.	

Applicants who are individuals applying for funds separate from a business or non-profit organization he/she may operate are not eligible to charge indirect costs to their award. If you are an individual applying for funding, do not include any indirect costs in your proposed budget.

For more information on indirect cost rates, see the Service's **Indirect Costs and Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Agreements** guidance document on the Internet at http://www.fws.gov/grants/.

Negotiating an Indirect Cost Rate with the Department of the Interior:

For organizations without a NICRA, you must have an open, active Federal award to submit an indirect cost rate proposal to your cognizant agency. The Federal awarding agency that provides the largest amount of direct funding to your organization is your cognizant agency, unless otherwise assigned by the White House Office of Management and Budget (OMB). If the Department of the Interior is your cognizant agency, your indirect cost rate will be negotiated by the Interior Business Center (IBC). For more information, contact the IBC at:

Indirect Cost Services
Acquisition Services Directorate, Interior Business Center
U.S. Department of the Interior
2180 Harvard Street, Suite 430
Sacramento, CA 95815

Phone: 916-566-7111 Email: ics@nbc.gov

Internet address: http://www.aqd.nbc.gov/Services/ICS.aspx

F. Statements Regarding A-133 Single Audit Reporting:

Following OMB Circular A-133

(http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/omb/assets/a133/a133_revised_2007.pdf), all U.S. states, local governments, federally-recognized Indian tribal governments, and non-profit organizations expending \$500,000 USD or more in Federal award funds in a fiscal year must submit an A-133 Single Audit report for that year through the Federal Audit Clearinghouse's Internet Data Entry System.

All U.S. state, local government, federally-recognized Indian tribal government and non-profit applicants must provide a statement regarding if your organization was/was not required to submit an A-133 Single Audit report for the organization's most recently closed fiscal year and, if so, state if that report is available on the Federal Audit Clearinghouse Single Audit Database website (http://harvester.census.gov/sac/). Include these statements at the end of the Project Narrative in a section titled "A-133 Single Audit Reporting Statements".

G. Assurances

Include the appropriate signed and dated Assurances form available online at http://apply07.grants.gov/apply/FormLinks?family=15. Use the **Assurances for Non-Construction Programs (SF 424B)** if the project does not involve construction. Use the **Assurances for Construction Programs (SF 424D)** if the project does involve construction or land acquisition.

Signing this form does not mean that all items on the form are applicable. The form contains language that states that some of the assurances may not be applicable to your organization and/or your project or program.

H. Certification and Disclosure of Lobbying Activities:

Under Title 31 of the United States Code, Section 1352, an applicant or recipient must not use any federally appropriated funds (both annually appropriated and continuing appropriations) or matching funds under a grant or cooperative agreement award to pay any person for lobbying in connection with the award. Lobbying is defined as influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress connection with the award. Submission of an application also represents the applicant's certification of the statements in 43 CFR Part 18, Appendix A-Certification Regarding Lobbying. If you/your organization have/has made or agrees to make any payment using non-appropriated funds for lobbying in connection with this project AND the project budget exceeds \$100,000, complete and submit the **SF LLL, Disclosure of Lobbying Activities** form. See 43 CFR, Subpart 18.100 for more information on when additional submission of this form is required. Submission of an application also represents the applicant's certification of the statements in 43 CFR Part 18, Appendix A-Certification Regarding Lobbying.

Application Checklist

DUNS Registration (see requirement in Section III Basic Eligibility Requirements, A Duns Registration)
SAM active registration (see requirement in Section III Basic Eligibility Requirements, B Entity Registration in SAM)
SF 424, <u>Application</u> for Federal Assistance: A complete, signed and dated SF 424
SF 424 Budget form: A complete SF 424A or SF 424C Budget Information form
SF 424 Assurances form: Signed and dated SF 424B or SF 424D Assurances form
Project summary, if applicable
Project narrative
Timetable
A-133 Single Audit Reporting statement : If a U.S. state, local government, federally-recognized Indian tribal government, or non-profit organization, statements regarding applicability of and compliance with OMB Circular A-133 Single Audit Reporting requirements
Budget justification SF LLL form: If applicable, completed SF-LLL Disclosure of Lobbying Activities form

Failure to provide complete information may cause delays, postponement, or rejection of the application.

V. Submission Instructions

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: Monday, June 9, 2014, 4:00 PM, Alaska Standard Time

Download the Application Package linked to this Funding Opportunity on Grants.gov to begin the application process. Downloading and saving the Application Package to your computer makes the required government-wide standard forms fillable and printable. Completed applications may be submitted electronically through Grants.gov, or as otherwise described in the Grants.gov funding opportunity.

To submit an application through Grants.gov:

Go to the Grants.gov Apply for Grants page (http://www07.grants.gov/applicants/apply_for_grants.jsp) for an overview of the process to apply through Grants.gov. You/your organization must complete the Grants.gov registration process before submitting an application through Grants.gov. Registration can take between three to five business days, or as long as two weeks if all steps are not completed in a timely manner.

Important note on Grants.gov application attachment file names: Please do not assign application attachments file names longer than 20 characters, including spaces. Assigning file names longer than 20 characters will create issues in the automatic interface between Grants.gov and the Service's financial assistance management system.

VI. APPLICATION REVIEW

Criteria: This will be a single source cooperative agreement.

Review and Selection Process: The Service Agency Contact will review the proposal and determine if it meets the Service's requirements.

VII. Award Administration

Award Notices: Following review, applicants may be requested to revise the project scope and/or budget before an award is made. Successful applicants will receive written notice in the form of a notice of award document. Notices of award are typically sent to recipients by e-mail. If e-mail notification is unsuccessful, the documents will be sent by courier mail (e.g., FedEx, DHL or UPS). Award recipients are not required to sign/return the Notice of Award document. Acceptance of an award is defined as starting work, drawing down funds, or accepting the award via electronic means. Awards are based on the application submitted to, and as approved by, the Service. The notice of award document will include instructions specific to each recipient on how to request payment. If applicable, the instructions will detail any additional information/forms required and where to submit payment requests. Applicants whose projects are not selected for funding will receive written notice, most often by e-mail, within 30 days of the final review decision.

Domestic Recipient Payments: Prior to award, the Service program office will contact you/your organization to either enroll in the U.S. Treasury's Automated Standard Application for Payments (ASAP) system or, if eligible, obtain approval from the Department of the Interior to be waived from using ASAP.

Domestic applicants subject to the SAM registration requirement (see Section III B.) who receive a waiver from receiving funds through ASAP must maintain current banking information in SAM. Domestic applicants exempt from the SAM registration requirement who receive a waiver from receiving funds through ASAP will be required to submit their banking information directly to the Service program. However, do NOT submit any banking information to the Service until it is requested from you by the Service program!

Transmittal of Sensitive Data: Recipients are responsible for ensuring any sensitive data being sent to the Service is protected during its transmission/delivery. The Service strongly recommends that recipients use the most secure transmission/delivery method available. The Service recommends the following digital transmission methods: secure digital faxing; encrypted emails; emailing a password protected zipped/compressed file attachment in one email followed by the password in a second email; or emailing a zipped/compressed file attachment. The Service strongly encourages recipients sending sensitive data in paper copy to use a courier mail service. Recipients may also contact their Service Project Officer and provide any sensitive data over the telephone.

Award Terms and Conditions:

Acceptance of a financial assistance award (i.e., grant or cooperative agreement) from the Service carries with it the responsibility to be aware of and comply with the terms and conditions applicable to the award. Acceptance is defined as the start of work, drawing down funds, or accepting the award via electronic means. Awards are based on the application submitted to and approved by the Service and are subject to the terms and conditions incorporated into the notice of award either by direct citation or by reference to the following: Federal regulations; program legislation or regulation; and special award terms and conditions. The Federal regulations applicable to Service awards are available on the Internet at http://www.fws.gov/grants/. If you do not have access to the Internet and require a full text copy of the award terms and conditions, contact the Service point of contact identified in the Agency Contacts section below.

Recipient Reporting Requirements:

Interim financial reports and performance reports may be required. Interim reports will be required no more frequently than quarterly, and no less frequently than annually. A final financial report and a final performance report will be required and are due within 90 calendar days of the end date of the award. Performance reports must contain: 1) a comparison of actual accomplishments with the goals and objectives of the award as detailed in the approved scope of work; 2) a description of reasons why established goals were not met, if appropriate; and 3) any other pertinent information relevant to the project results.

Significant Development Reports:

Events may occur between the scheduled performance reporting dates that have significant impact upon the supported activity. In such cases, recipients are required to notify the Service in writing as soon as the following types of conditions become known:

- Problems, delays, or adverse conditions that will materially impair the ability to meet the objective of the Federal award. This disclosure must include a statement of any corrective action(s) taken or contemplated, and any assistance needed to resolve the situation.
- Favorable developments that enable meeting time schedules and objectives sooner or at less cost than anticipated or producing more or different beneficial results than originally planned.

The Service will specify in the notice of award document the reporting and reporting frequency applicable to the award.

VIII. Agency Contact

Steven Matsuoka, Project Officer U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Migratory Bird Management 1011 East Tudor Rd. Anchorage, AK 99503 office: (907) 786-3853 steve_matsuoka@fws.gov